

We claim:

1. A system of enriching non-linkable media representations for hotlinking in a network implementing a hot media architecture, comprising:
- a server coupled to the network for transmitting a streaming rich media file to a client station;
 - a HotMedia client master in the client station;
 - means included in the master for fetching an action enabling kernel and a hotlink canvas from the server after receiving a meta frame from the server;
 - means for composing hotlinks in the hotlink canvas after receiving the meta data from the action enabling kernel; and
 - means for overlying and coupling the hotlink canvas in a transparent panel on the non-linkable media whereby the non-linkable media becomes interactive and hyperlinkable.

2. The system of claim 1 wherein the streaming rich media further comprises:
- non-linkable media in a framework of frames including a header frame, a thumbnail frame, a meta frame, a media frame and an end of stream frame.

3. The system of claim 1 further comprising:
- means for delivering the meta frame to the action enabling kernel.

4. In a system of enriching non-linkable media representations for hotlinking in a network implementing a HotMedia architecture including a server coupled to the network for transmitting to a client station a streaming rich media file including non-linkable

media in a framework of frames including a header frame, a thumbnail frame, a meta frame, a media frame and an end of stream frame and a HotMedia client master in the client station, a method for providing a hotlink canvas to enrich non-linkable media representations, comprising the steps of:

composing hotlinks;

querying the state of a media object in the client station;

displaying range contours of the hotlinks; and

performing actions composed in the hotlinks to enrich the otherwise non-linkable media representations.

5. The method of claim 4 further including the step of composing hotlinks by receiving hotlink meta data from an action enabling kernel.

6. The method of claim 4 further including the step of querying media current spatio-temporal position information and the current state of the media object.

7. The method of claim 5 further including the step of forwarding media spatio-temporal position information and the current state of the media object to the action enabling kernel.

8. The method of claim 6 further including the step of receiving the information of contending hotlink candidates from the action enabling kernel.

9. The method of claim 4 further including of the step of picking one hotlink among a set of contending hotlink candidates.

10. The method of claim 4 further including the step of displaying the range contours of hotlinks on the media object by overlaying a transparent panel on top of the media object.

11. The method of claim 10 further including the step of a non-linear transformation and interpolation for unifying hotlinks between non-linear media representations in the

context of the hotlink canvas.

12. The method of claim 4 further including the step of performing specified actions if the corresponding hotlink is triggered.

13. The method of claim 5 further including the step of requesting the action enabling kernel to handle specified actions corresponding to a triggered hotlink.

14. The system of claim 1 further comprising:

means for providing hyperlinking capability in a real time environment for non-linkable media representation in a network.

15. The system of claim 1 further comprising

a server coupled to the network capable of producing and transmitting real time media presentations; and

a real time encoding studio resident in a server coupled to the network for transmitting both real time non-linkable media and a set of meta information of hotlinks to a HotMedia client station.

16. The system of claim 1 wherein a real time encoding studio provides a real-time authoring capability of multiplexing a non-linkable media and a set of meta information of hotlinks to a streaming rich media file in HotMedia framework

17. A hotlink canvas for enriching non-linkable media representations for hotlinking in a network implementing a hot media architecture including a server coupled to a client station via a network, comprising:

means for constructing a transparent panel overlying a media object including the non-linkable representations in the client station;

means for composing hotlinks in the transparent panel; and

9 means for enabling hot linking of the non-linkable media using the hotlinks in
10 the transparent panel.

1 18. The hotlink canvas of claim 17 wherein the transparent panel further comprises:

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3 means for decoupling hotlinks in media representations at the client station.

1 19. The hotlink canvas of claim 17 wherein the client station further comprises:

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3 means responsive to a trigger for implementing a hotlink the transparent panel.

1 20. The hotlink canvas of claim 17 wherein the server further comprises:

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3 means for composing the hotlink canvas in advance of delivering the non-linkable
4 media to the client station
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